

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

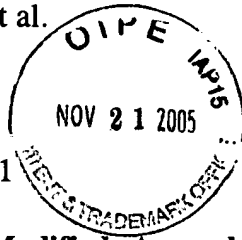
In re Application of: Schwertfeger et al.

Examiner: Daniel S. Metzmaier

Application No.: 09/817,459

Art Unit: 1712

Filed: March 26, 2001



For: **Organically Modified Aerogels, Method for their Production by Surface Modification of the Aqueous Gel Without Previous Solvent Exchange and Subsequent Drying and their Use Thereof**

**Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed August 9, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks and new evidence in support of patentability. A Notice of Appeal was previously submitted on May 23, 2005.

**REMARKS**

**Summary of the Invention and Pending Claims**

The present invention relates to organically modified aerogels and lyogels and to processes for preparing them by surface modification of an aqueous gel, without prior solvent exchange.